## News From SENATOR LINCOLN CHAFEE RHODE ISLAND

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CONTACT: Debbie Rich 401 453-5071

## CHAFEE ANNOUNCES \$270,050 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT TO PAWTUCKET FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety Program

**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today announced that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has awarded a \$270,050 grant to the Pawtucket Fire Department. This 2003 Assistance to Firefighters Grant is one of 635 grants announced this week to support their role as first responders in the neighborhoods and communities they serve as firefighters throughout the United States.

The funding will be used for Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety. This program includes training, wellness and fitness, firefighting equipment, personal protective equipment, and modifications to fire stations and facilities.

"It is timely that the Pawtucket Fire Department has been chosen to receive this grant in the aftermath of the devastating Greenhalgh Mill fire," said Senator Chafee. "I am pleased that the Bush Administration continues its commitment to making first-responder funding a priority and I join all Rhode Islanders with grateful thanks to the brave men and women who are on the front line of defense against all hazards."

The Assistance for Firefighters Grant Program is administered by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States. These one-year grants are sent directly to local fire department enhancing their abilities to respond to fire and fire-related hazards in their communities. The funds are used by the nation's firefighters to increase the effectiveness of firefighting operations, firefighter health and safety programs, new fire apparatus, Emergency Medical Service programs, and Fire Prevention and Safety Programs.

A list of all current award recipients announced to date is posted on the USFA web site at http://www.usfa.fema.gov. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.